

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended for form and clarity only. Claims 13-17 have been added to allow for a greater variety of claim scope.

I. Discussion of Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and Statement of Substance of Examiner's Interview

Applicant thanks Supervisory Patent Examiner King Poon and Examiner Lennin Rodriguez for their time in conducting the courteous and productive personal interview of December 6, 2007 regarding the rejections of claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of Takemoto.

To summarize this conversation, Applicant's representative presented Applicant's position that Takemoto failed to teach or suggest at least a "image data reading means for reading **image files, attached with reception information . . . from an image recording medium. . .**; and reception means for . . . **rewriting the reception information of the image files.**" The Examiner's indicated their belief that this was not taught by the reference but requested that Applicant clarify that "the reception information" rewritten by the reception means is still the reception information referred by the language "image files, attached with reception information". Applicant has thus submitted the claim amendments presented above to expedite the prosecution of the application.

As such, with regard to claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that Takemoto fails to teach or suggest "the reception information attached to the image file or files for which a printing order has been received is rewritten **in the image recording medium** to indicate completion of printing order reception."

With regard to claim 5, Applicant respectfully submits that Takemoto fails to teach or suggest “rewriting the reception information of the image files **on the image recording medium** to indicate completion of printing order reception thereof.”

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1 and 5 are not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) by Takemoto, because the reference does not disclose all of the features and limitations of the claim as amended. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of independent claims 1 and 5, and claims 2-4 and 6-16 at least by virtue of their dependency from claims 1 and 5.

II. Objections to Claims 1-4

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the objections to claims 1-4 in view of the self-explanatory amendments presented above.

III. Objections to the Specification and Drawings

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the objections to the specification in view of the self-explanatory amendments presented above. Further to this, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the objection to the drawings as the amendment to the specification is believed to have also addressed the objection to the drawings.

IV. New claims

Claims 13-17 have been added to allow for a further variety of claim scope. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are supported by the original specification as filed and in particular page 3, lines 13-21 and Figure 1B.

Applicant respectfully submits that they are allowable for at least the same reasons as claims 1 and 5 from which they depend.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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